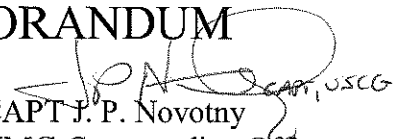




5354
9 October 2013

MEMORANDUM

From: CAPT J. P. Novotny 
NMC-Commanding Officer

Reply to NMC
Attn of:

To: Affected United States Merchant Mariner

Subj: EXTENSION OF EXPIRING MERCHANT MARINER CREDENTIAL(S)

Ref: (a) Coast Guard Auth. Act of 2010, P.L. 111-281, Section 615 (46 U.S.C. §7507)

1. Due to the Federal Government's lapse in appropriations for Fiscal Year 2014, the Coast Guard is unable to process all mariner credentials in time to ensure that all mariners receive their renewed credentials before their current documents expire. In an effort to resolve this issue, and under the authority of reference (a), the Coast Guard is granting extensions effective immediately, to national endorsements until December 31, 2013 for mariners whose credentials expire between October 1, 2013 and November 30, 2013.

2. All mariners sailing on inland or coastwise voyages (domestically) should print and retain a copy of this letter with their MMC(s) and produce it upon request by U.S. Coast Guard or other officials. Additionally, mariners who have an expiration date within the impacted period, and who have not yet submitted an application for renewal, should do so as soon as possible. The National Maritime Center (NMC) does not intend to issue any separate or new MMCs to correspond to this extension for mariners sailing domestically. For those mariners with an expiring MMC with STCW Endorsements and are likely to sail foreign during the period, additional provisions have been made. Please contact the NMC.

3. This letter is self implementing and should be carried with the affected MMC. Mariners that have paid for any MMC application services during the lapse in appropriations period will receive all entitled documents and qualifications once the NMC has regained full operational status and is legally authorized to begin producing them.

4. The MMC online verification tool will reflect updates for STCW MMCs only. Any questions regarding the extended validity of MMCs and the specific contents of this letter should be directed to: e-mail iasknmc@uscg.mil or by phone at 1-888-427-5662 or international 001-304-433-3400. Mariners and industry stakeholders are encourage to monitor the NMC website for updates: www.uscg.mil/nmc.